

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8581

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USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0601

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR MCAP EFIN NATO DA GL

SUBJ: US MILITARY EXPENDITUES IN DENMARK FOR GREENLAND BASES.

REF: NATO 986, 1033

1. IN PREPARING RESPONSE TO DANISH REQUEST FOR DATA ON US EXPENDITURES IN DENMARK AND GREENLAND, ASSUME DEPARTMENT WILL BEAR IN MIND HISTORY OF US PROCUREMENT HERE AS QUID PRO QUO FOR USE OF GREENLAND BASES. THIS UNDERSTANDING WAS FORMALIZED IN CONFIDENTIAL AIDE MEMOIRE OF JUNE 1962 IN WHICH USG AGREED TO ENDEAVOR TOMAXIMIZE PROCUREMENT OF SUPPLIES FOR GREENLAND IN ENMARK. DURING PAST TEN YEARS, USG HAS BEEN SPENDING ABOUT DOLS 16 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR THAT PURPOSE. FY 73 TOTAL WAS OVER DOLS 18 MILLION AND FY 74 FIGURE IS EXPECTED TO BE OVER DOLS 19 MILLION.

2. BULK OF THIS EXPENDITURE IS IN FORM OF CONTRACTS WITH DANISH FIRMS FOR BASE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR GREENLAND BASES. HOWEVER, PURUSNT TO UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DANISH AND USGOVTS, EXTENSIVE USE IS MADE OF DANISH PRODUCTS IN SUPPLYING US PERSONNEL IN GREENLAND. ACCORDINGLY, FACT THAT US PERSONNEL CONCENTRATE MOST OF THEIR CASH OUTLAY IN GREENLAND ON FACILITIES RUN BY USG IS NOT PARTICULARLY RELEVANT. ALTHOUGH CASH TRANSACTIONS MAY TAKEPLACE ON US BASES, MUCH OF PROCEEDS GO TO DENMARK RATHER THAN US. IT IS,
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OF COURSE, TRUE THAT PART OF SALARIES PAID TO US CITIZENS THERE IS

NEVER TRANSFERRED TO GREENLAND BUT REMAINS IN US.
CROWE

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